

## LEGISLATIVE BILL 446

Approved by the Governor May 26, 2009

Introduced by Fulton, 29.

FOR AN ACT relating to the Engineers and Architects Regulation Act; to amend sections 81-3401 and 81-3432, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to provide for a loan repayment program for graduates; to define a term; to eliminate obsolete language; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original sections.

Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

Section 1. Section 81-3401, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-3401 Sections 81-3401 to 81-3455 and section 3 of this act shall be known and may be cited as the Engineers and Architects Regulation Act.

Sec. 2. Section 81-3432, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-3432 The Engineers and Architects Regulation Fund is created. The secretary of the board shall receive and account for all money derived from the operation of the Engineers and Architects Regulation Act and shall remit the money to the State Treasurer for credit to the Engineers and Architects Regulation Fund. All expenses certified by the board as properly and necessarily incurred in the discharge of duties, including compensation and administrative staff, and any expense incident to the administration of the act relating to other states shall be paid out of the fund. Loan repayments payable pursuant to section 3 of this act shall be paid out of the fund. Warrants for the payment of expenses shall be issued by the Director of Administrative Services and paid by the State Treasurer upon presentation of vouchers regularly drawn by the chairperson and secretary of the board and approved by the board. At no time shall the total amount of warrants exceed the total amount of the fees collected under the act and to the credit of the fund. Any money in the fund available for investment shall be invested by the state investment officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds Investment Act. ~~Any money in the Professional Engineering and Architectural Examiners' Fund on January 1, 1998, shall be transferred to the Engineers and Architects Regulation Fund.~~

Sec. 3. (1) The board may repay qualified educational debt owed by an eligible graduate. Such repayment shall be made from the Engineers and Architects Regulation Fund. To be eligible for loan repayment, a recipient shall be a graduate of (a) a National Architectural Accrediting Board-accredited architecture program in Nebraska or (b) an ABET-accredited engineering program in Nebraska and shall have obtained qualified educational debt.

(2) For purposes of this section, qualified educational debt means government and commercial loans obtained by a student for postsecondary education tuition, other educational expenses, and reasonable living expenses, as determined by the board.

(3) The board may adopt and promulgate rules and regulations governing any loan repayment under this section.

Sec. 4. Original sections 81-3401 and 81-3432, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, are repealed.